

**Forest Plan Amendment Number 29
Custer National Forest
Billings, Montana**

The Custer National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan is amended as follows:

The stipulations to be applied to new oil and gas leases as identified in Amendment Number 1 are modified as described below.

DELETE the following stipulations:

Mgmt. Areas	Area or Rationale the Stipulation Applies to	Forest Plan Stipulations	New Stipulation
A, G	Protect key wildlife and/or habitats (see Key Species/Critical Timing Periods in section II).	Lease Stipulations and Timing Restrictions	Timing Limitation Stipulation (Seasonal Restriction)
D	Protection of roadless values in the Tracy Mountain-Moody Plateau and Bullion Buttes-Ponderosa Pine areas. However an exception will be granted if oil and gas production is established on an adjacent private/state lands; if this occurs, surface occupancy will be allowed on the adjacent spacing unit of federal ownership in order to protect the federal mineral estate.	No Surface Occupancy Stipulation	No Surface Occupancy Stipulation
F	Protect recreation corridors. Prohibit occupancy within ¼ mile of developed sites from May 15 to September 15.	Surface Occupancy Restriction Stipulations (timing)	Timing Limitation Stipulation (Seasonal Restriction)
M	To minimize surface disturbance in riparian areas.	Limited Surface Use Stipulation	Lease Notice

And **REPLACE** them with the following stipulations:

Mgmt. Areas	Area or Resource the Stipulation Applies to	Stipulation
A, B, C, D, G	Protect key wildlife and/or habitats (see Key Species/Critical Timing Periods in Chapter II, page 19).	No Surface Occupancy and Timing Limitation (Seasonal Restriction)

Mgmt. Areas	Area or Resource the Stipulation Applies to	Stipulation
B, C, D	Protect the roadless values in the Bullion Butte, Kinley Plateau, and Stom-Hanson Inventoried Roadless Areas (as identified in Appendix C of the Forest Plan FEIS). The second sentence of Provision 5.c.4 on page 55 of the Forest Plan concerning drainage of federal minerals is made not applicable for the area occupied by the Bullion Butte and Kinley Plateau roadless areas within Management Area D.	No Surface Occupancy
D	Protect stands of ponderosa pine as mapped in the Southern Little Missouri and Cedar River Oil and Gas Leasing FEIS. Access and other associated development and production facilities will be routed to avoid cutting dominant and codominant trees (defined in the glossary in the Southern Little Missouri FEIS). Visual Quality Objective within foreground of these ponderosa pine stands is retention.	No Surface Occupancy
F	Protect recreation corridors. Prohibit occupancy within ¼ mile of developed sites from May 15 to September 15. This restriction of activities within ¼ mile of Burning Coal Vein Campground will apply from May 15 to December 1 annually.	Timing Limitation (Seasonal Restriction)
M	Minimize surface disturbance in riparian areas. Drill pads will not be located within the riparian ecosystem, and will be located to avoid disturbance to the distinctive vegetative communities within the riparian ecosystems, unless after analysis the Authorizing Officer determines that locating in alternate sites may be more damaging than occupying this management area. Access and other associated development and production facilities will be routed to cross riparian areas at right angles to minimize road lengths, to maintain stream gradients, and to prevent sedimentation in the streams.	Controlled Surface Use

The following stipulations are also ADDED:

Mgmt. Areas	Area or Resource the Stipulation Applies to	Stipulation
B, D	Protect known geologic outcrops in the Bullion Creek and Slope Type Section Nominated Geologic SIAs, and in the Cannonball /Slope Outcrop Nominated Geologic SIA. Predevelopment surveys will also be required to specifically identify outcrops for which these SIAs were nominated.	Controlled Surface Use
B, D	Protect paleontological resources in the Marmarth area (as identified on the paleontological map in the project file for the SLM/CR FEIS). A predevelopment survey will also be required to specifically identify these resources in advance of development.	Controlled Surface Use

- End Amendment Number 29 -